

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00

MBFR-03 SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 AEC-11 SCI-06 IO-13 RSR-01

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R 171740Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1858

SECDEF WAHHDC

INFO USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLO SACLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 3639

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MCAP NL NATO PFOR

SUBJECT: PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ON MINIATURE NUCLEAR WEAPONS

REF A. STATE 161775; B. STATE 149007

1. WE PROVIDED MFA WITH INFORMATION CONTAINED PARA 1 REF A AND PARA 3 REF B ON AUGUST 17 WITH REQUEST THAT IT BE PASSED ON TO DEFMIN VREDELING BEFORE HIS VISIT TO U.S. ON AUGUST 22. RESPONSIBLE MFA OFFICER (FEITH) PROMISED TO DO SO AND ASSURED EMBOFF THAT RESPONSE BEING DRAFTED FOR JOINT USE BY VREDELING AND FONMIN VAN DER STOEL WOULD BE ALONG LINES OF REFTELS, POSSIBLY SUPPLEMENTED BY ADDITIONAL QUOTATIONS FROM MAJ. GEN. GILLER'S TESTIMONY, FULL TEXT OF WHICH WAS RECENTLY PROVIDED TO MFA BY NETHERLANDS EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

2. RE PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION CONCERNING "THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION TO TRY TO PLACE THE DENUCLEARIZATION OF EUROPE ON THE AGENDA OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA...", FEITH SAID THAT RESPONSE BEING DRAFTED WOULD POINT OUT THAT GON HAS NO
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INTENTION TO RAISE QUESTION OF "DENUCLEARIZATION" OF EUROPE.

ADDITIONAL POINT WOULD BE MADE THAT WHILE IT COULD NOT BE EXCLUDED THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS MIGHT BE PART OF MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, "DENUCLEARIZATION" WAS NOT ENVISAGED.

3. COMMENT. QUESTION ON "DENUCLEARIZATION" APPEARS TO US TO BE EFFORT BY RADICAL PARTY (WHICH IS MEMBER OF DEN UYL COALITION GOVERNMENT) TO ATTEMPT TO PRESSURE GOVT INTO CARRYING OUT PLEDGE MADE IN 1972 ELECTION PROGRAM OF SO-CALLED "PROGRESSIVE PARTIES" (INCLUDING DEN UYL'S LABOR PARTY) TO TAKE INITIATIVE IN MBFR CONTEXT (COUPLED TO SALT) TO FREE EUROPE FROM ALL NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THERE IS CLEARLY GREAT INTEREST ON PART OF DEN UYL GOVT IN EXAMINING POSSIBILITIES FOR REDUCTION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN MBFR CONTEXT, BUT IT HAS SO FAR RESISTED KIND OF ACTION CONTAINED IN ELECTION PROGRAM REFERRED TO ABOVE. WE HAVE PERCEIVED NOTHING IN GON THINKING RECENTLY THAT WOULD LEAD US TO CONCLUDE THAT GON CONTEMPLATES ANYTHING MORE THAN KIND OF REDUCTIONS FORESEEN AS POSSIBILITIES IN OPTION 3 OF APRIL 30 U.S. PAPER ON MBFR. AS DEPT. IS AWARE FROM PREVIOUS HAGUE REPORTING (E.G., A-122 OF JUNE 22) DEN UYL GOVT HAS COMMISSIONED NETHERLANDS INSTITUTE FOR PEACE MATTERS TO PREPARE STUDY ON ROLE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN NATO STRATEGY FOR USE BY GON IN FORMULATING ITS OWN VIEWS IN THIS AREA. AS STUDY HAS NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED, WE BELIEVE THAT GON WILL CONTINUE TO DODGE EFFORTS TO BE PINNED DOWN ON ITS VIEWS REGARDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN NATO STRATEGY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR ARMS CONTROL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973THEHA03639
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS BLODGETT
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730830/aaaaavlz.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. STATE 161775; B. STATE 149007
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Sep-2001 by freemaal>; APPROVED <05-Nov-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ON MINIATURE NUCLEAR WEAPONS
TAGS: MCAP, PFOR, NL, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005